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Gregory F. Smith

2014 MAY 22 AM 10: 34 28 44 22 AN 7: 51

OFFICE OF GENERAL FEC MAIL CENTER

Norfolk, Virginia 23508

Jeff S. Jordan

COUNSEL

**Federal Election Commission** 

999 E. St. NW

Washington, DC 20463

13 May 2014

Dear Mr. Jordan:

I am in receipt of your letter of 1 May 2014. I am not experienced in making contributions to a candidate's campaign and was unaware of the campaign contribution limits.

According to Ms. Hasty's letter, I have contributed \$5500 to the Cox campaign. \$3000 of that contribution was listed as a loan to the campaign, which Ms. Hasty has cited as an illegal classification and must be treated as a contribution. I understand from the Cox campaign that they are refunding the \$3000 to me and removing it as a contribution. That would have me at \$2500, per her calculations.

In addition, my franchise, Smith, Powell and Associates was cited in the letter as contributing \$2000 to the campaign. My associate, Mr. Powell, has no ownership stake in the franchise. I am the franchisee/sole proprietor and he is my full-time associate.

Once again, I was unaware of the campaign limits when these contributions were made. It is my understanding that corrective action is being taken by the Cox campaign.

Sincerely,

Gregory F. Smith